NUMBER 8

Have you ever had the urge to eat M&M's in multiples of six? Maybe you try to walk to the school doors in an even number of steps? Brush your teeth the same number of times on each side? Top and bottom? Well let me tell you, if you do that, then I think that you would love this book. This book is called Number 8.

Number 8 is told in the alternate voices of Jackson and Esmerelda, changing every chapter. I think that it is really cool how Anna Fienberg set up her book for the readers.

Jackson loves even numbers, especially the number 8. He always does one extra repetition to avoid an odd count when he’s doing something. When Jackson and his mother are forced to move to the suburbs to avoid a conflict from his mother's old casino boss, he moves across the street from Esmerelda. He finds his love of numbers is a perfect match to her need to make some sense out of math. Not only is she okay with his numbers, but she is fascinated with his mother's love of singing. At school, he meets Asim, who not only understands Jackson's love of numbers, but who might actually be better at math that he is. He doesn’t mind about even or odd numbers, he loves them all.   
  
Now Jackson has a new best friend, and a potential girlfriend. Everything is going great and Jackson thinks he could easily live there until he gets in a fight with Badman, the school bully. Soon, strange phone calls start making his mother nervous, and a mysterious blue mustang, licensed 777, the ugliest and worst number of them all, keeps driving by their house and the driver almost runs Jackson over!! It comes more frequently through the week and soon enough, Esmerelda disappears.

If you read this book, be prepared to be glued to your seat by this character-driven mystery novel filled with math, gangsters, and a just a touch of romance. I think that Anna Fienberg did a great job to wrap up the heart pounding adventures of Jackson when she leaves two teenagers to find their friend. Jackson and Asim are the ones that have to find Esmerelda and get her out of hands of the awful people that took her. I think that the ending will surprise you.

I hope that you decide to read this great book by Anna Fienberg, Number 8.

Thank you, ☺